

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A coupling structure ~~of a shaft body and a shaft joint~~, comprising:

a shaft body having a positioning recess ~~in the middle thereof in a longitudinal direction~~ close to an end portion thereof;

a shaft joint having an engagement groove with which the shaft body is engaged, bores facing the engagement groove, and a flexible member which is provided on an outer side and extending in a longitudinal direction of the engagement groove and is to be engaged with the positioning recess; and

a coupling shaft, which is inserted into the bores, for coupling the shaft body and the shaft joint.

2. (Currently Amended) The coupling structure ~~of a shaft body and a shaft joint~~ according to Claim 1, wherein the flexible member has a deflection regulating portion facing a side face of the engagement groove.

3. (Currently Amended) The coupling structure ~~of a shaft body and a shaft joint~~ according to Claim 2, wherein a tip of the flexible member is bent outward in a width direction of the engagement groove.

4. (Currently Amended) The coupling structure of a shaft body and a shaft joint according to Claim 3, wherein the flexible member is provided more inwardly than the other side face of the engagement groove.

5. (Currently Amended) The coupling structure of a shaft body and a shaft joint according to Claim 2, wherein the flexible member is provided more inwardly than the other side face of the engagement groove.

6. (New) The coupling structure of Claim 1, wherein the positioning recess is substantially perpendicular to the axial direction of the coupling shaft.

7. (New) A coupling structure, comprising:

a shaft body having a positioning recess close to an end portion thereof;

a shaft joint having an engagement groove engaging the shaft body;

bores facing the engagement groove; and

a flexible member provided on an outer side and extending in a longitudinal direction of the engagement groove and engaging with the positioning recess;

a coupling shaft inserted into the bores and coupling the shaft body and the shaft joint; and

a semi-circular groove near an end portion of the shaft body containing the coupling shaft.